



Public Affairs Division, 1100 Spatz Street, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433-7102
(937) 255-4704 ext 330, 331, 332, 333 <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/>

STORY IDEAS FOR THE MEDIA

The National Museum of the United States Air Force offers the media a wide range of interesting and unique topics that can serve as the basis for an attractive feature story. Particular possibilities include:

Go Behind the Scenes

So much more takes place away from the day-to-day public view to enable the museum to tell the Air Force and military air power story to its more than one million annual visitors. Go behind the scenes to see how the museum restores aircraft, builds sensory exhibits, manages its massive artifact collection and cares for its valuable historical document and photo collection. Current restoration projects include the B-17 "Memphis Belle," the Bristol Beaufighter, the George 21 and many others.

"Memphis Belle" Restoration

The B-17F "Memphis Belle" will undergo several years of restoration work. Follow along behind the scenes as the museum's restoration team restores this famous World War II bomber.

Major expansion

The National Museum of the United States Air Force is in the midst of a major growth spurt. In 2003 the museum opened a 200,000-square-foot third building. In 2004 a 140-foot high, 12,500-square-foot Missile and Space Gallery followed. And much more is on the way, including a full-size space gallery and the movement of the museum's presidential collection from Area B of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to the museum's main facility. Contact us to discover the details.

Dynamic special events bring history, aviation to life

Two historically significant groups will hold reunions at the museum in 2006. The Doolittle Raiders, the group that bombed the Japanese mainland early in World War II, is planning their 64th reunion for April 17-21. The Raiders will participate in autograph sessions, ceremonies, and dinner. The group's famed goblets will join the museum's Doolittle Raiders exhibit.

Vietnam prisoners of war (NAM POW) will visit May 4-6. Coinciding with their reunion is the retirement of the famous C-141 "Hanoi Taxi," the aircraft that repatriated more than 500 American prisoners of war held in North Vietnam. The aircraft will retire May 6, and reunion attendees will participate in a variety of activities, including flights on the C-141.

The Giant Scale Radio-Controlled Model Aircraft Air Show on Sept. 1-3 will feature some of the nation's top radio-controlled aircraft pilots performing entertaining aerobatics with a wide variety of RC aircraft.

The Liaison Aircraft Fly-In on Oct. 7 will feature aircraft used by all branches of the U.S. military from the late 1930s until the early 1970s. These aircraft performed a variety of missions, including reconnaissance, light transport, courier duties, medical evacuation, rescue, forward air control and artillery spotting.

"Disney Pins on Wings" art exhibit

This military art exhibit includes more than 50 pieces of Disney's original insignia designs, as well as selected examples of Disney-influenced materials from the museum's own collection. Included among

these items are World War II flight jackets with Disney designed insignia and original Desert Storm inspired nose-art sections from six B-52Gs. The exhibit is open through June 11, 2006.

Rare, one-of-a-kind and historic attractions

The museum is home to rare, one-of-a-kind and historic aircraft and exhibits. Popular attractions include the world's only permanent public display of a B-2 stealth bomber; President Kennedy's Air Force One and other presidential aircraft; the world's only remaining XB-70 Valkyrie; the B-29 "Bockscar" that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan, in World War II; sections of the Berlin Wall; a Bob Hope exhibit; and much more.

Rev Dec 2005